



# **CITY COUNCIL**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. **18-298, CD1**

## **RESOLUTION**

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URGING THE FIRE COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO IMMEDIATELY REVIEW THE HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT'S EXISTING OPERATIONS RELATED TO ITS FIRE FIGHTER RECRUIT TRAINING AND TESTING PROGRAMS, AND THEREAFTER MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FIRE CHIEF, AS APPROPRIATE.

WHEREAS, Section 6-1005, Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (2017 Edition) ("Charter"), establishes a Fire Commission consisting of seven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council ("Council"); and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 6-1006 outlines the major duties of the Fire Commission, which include: reviewing operations of the Honolulu Fire Department ("HFD"), as deemed necessary, for the purpose of recommending improvements to the Fire Chief; reviewing personnel actions within HFD for conformance with the policies under Charter Section 6-1002; and hearing complaints of citizens concerning HFD or its personnel and, if deemed necessary, making recommendations to the Fire Chief on appropriate corrective actions; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 6-1002 provides that HFD recruitment shall attract persons with high degrees of education, intelligence, and personal stability, with promotions and personnel actions based upon fair and appropriate standards of merit, ability, and work performance; and

WHEREAS, Honolulu Fire Fighter Recruits ("FFR") have training standards which include certification testing and a requirement to achieve National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians ("NREMT") – EMT B (Basic) Certification; and

WHEREAS, the FFR Training Manual for the HFD sets forth policies and procedures for the testing of HFD FFRs; and

WHEREAS, NREMT Certification guidelines differ from the HFD FFR Training Manual with respect to retest procedures; and

WHEREAS, a recent skills test of FFRs in 2018 resulted in an atypical number of failures; and



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WHEREAS, those FFRs who failed the initial skills test were permitted to take one retest shortly after the initial skills test; and

WHEREAS, certain FFRs who failed the retest were dismissed from the HFD; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that a policy review, as appropriate, be undertaken by the Fire Commission to address HFD FFRs and recruit training policies and practices; and

WHEREAS, a review by the Fire Commission should include an examination of NREMT-EMT B Certification guidelines, policies and procedures versus the policies and procedures set forth in the FFR Training Manual for the HFD; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Fire Commission is urged to review existing operations, policies, and procedures related to Fire Fighter Recruit Training and Testing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council that the Fire Commission is urged to make recommendations to the Fire Chief, as appropriate, based upon its review; and



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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Fire Chief, and the Chair of the Fire Commission.

INTRODUCED BY:

Ernest Martin

Ann H. Kobayashi

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

December 28, 2018  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
C E R T I F I C A T E

RESOLUTION 18-298, CD1

Introduced: 12/28/18 By: ERNEST MARTIN  
ANN KOBAYASHI

Committee: PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
WELFARE

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE FIRE COMMISSION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO IMMEDIATELY REVIEW THE HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT'S EXISTING OPERATIONS RELATED TO ITS FIRE FIGHTER RECRUIT TRAINING AND TESTING PROGRAMS, AND THEREAFTER MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE FIRE CHIEF, AS APPROPRIATE.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

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CC-9(19) KOBAYASHI - RE-REFERRAL OF BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

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CC-42(19) KOBAYASHI - RE-REFERRAL OF BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

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NOTE: THE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL FORMBY TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT IV WAS APPROVED ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019. (refer to RES19-11)

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02/28/19 PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
WELFARE

RESOLUTION POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE.

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03/28/19 PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
WELFARE

CR-102(19) - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.

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04/17/19 COUNCIL

CR-102(19), RESOLUTION 18-298 AND CD1 WERE RECOMMITTED TO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE.

9 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FORMBY, FUKUNAGA, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI.

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04/25/19 PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
WELFARE

RESOLUTION POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE.

4 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FORMBY, PINE.

2 EXCUSED: MANAHAN, MENOR.

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05/02/2019 PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
WELFARE

CR-149(19) - RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.

4 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE\*, FORMBY, PINE.

2 EXCUSED: MANAHAN, MENOR.

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NOTE: COUNCILMEMBER WATERS TOOK OFFICE ON MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019.

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05/08/19 COUNCIL

CR-149(19) AND RESOLUTION 18-298, CD1 AS AMENDED WERE ADOPTED.

8 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE\*, FUKUNAGA, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS.

1 ABSENT: KOBAYASHI.

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I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

  
GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

  
IKAIKA ANDERSON, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER